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**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET**

DATE: May 3, 2004

TO: Examiner Minh Chau Thi Pham  
Group Art Unit 1724  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/995,888  
For: FILTER CARTRIDGE ASSEMBLIES AND METHODS FOR FILTERING FLUIDS  
Our Ref.: 3192-001

FROM: Luke A. Kilyk, Esq. 

FAC. TEL. NO.: 1-703-872-9306

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 17

Items Attached: Amendment -- 16 pages

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-703-872-9306 on May 3, 2004.

Donald S. Prater  
Name of Person Signing Certificate  Signature

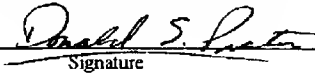
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Name (Print)

  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                |   |                              |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| In re Application of: THOMPSON | ) | Examiner: Minh Chau Thi PHAM |
|                                | ) |                              |
| Application No.: 09/995,888    | ) | Group Art Unit: 1724         |
|                                | ) |                              |
| Filed: November 28, 2001       | ) | Confirmation No.: 1598       |
|                                | ) |                              |
| Docket No.: 3192-001           | ) | Customer No.: 33432          |

For: FILTER CARTRIDGE ASSEMBLIES AND METHODS FOR FILTERING FLUIDS

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 3, 2004

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated February 2, 2004, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response, thus making the response due on or before May 3, 2004 (May 2, 2004 was a Sunday).

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.